

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, TGEN

SUBJECT: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; RESPONSIBILITY FOR JOINT RESEARCH  
PROJECTS; CLEARANCE OF RUPEE PROJECTS

REF: STATE 8340

1. PRIOR TO THE RECEIPT OF REFTTEL, THE DCM HAD ANOTHER INFORMAL DINNER TABLE DISCUSSION WITH DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECRETARY RAMACHANDRAN REGARDING JOINT COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FULL RANGE OF US-INDIAN JOINT RESEARCH. RAMACHANDRAN REPEATED THE GOI VIEW THAT THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION COULD NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS WHICH WERE NOT AMONG THE PRIORITY TASKS IT UNDERTAKES. POINTING OUT THAT MANY JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS HAD BEEN IN PROCESS WHEN THE SUBCOMMISSION WAS FORMED, HE SAID THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECTS NOT SPECIFICALLY WITHIN THE SUBCOMMISSION PURVIEW WOULD HAVE TO BE MAINTAINED BY INDIVIDUAL INDIAN GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENTS. HE QUESTIONED HOW THERE COULD BE ANY OTHER SYSTEM EVEN IN THE US, SAYING THAT SCIENTISTS FROM ONE AGENCY IN THE US WORKING WITH THOSE OF A DEPARTMENT IN INDIA MUST BE RESPONSIBLE TO THEIR OWN AGENCIES.

2. THE DCM REPLIED THAT AS HE UNDERSTOOD THE US VIEW POLICY MATTERS IN REGARD TO ALL JOINT RESEARCH SHOULD BE WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE US DELEGATION TO THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUT ACTUAL OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY WOULD LIE WITH THE US AGENCY AS IN INDIA. THE DCM ASKED IF IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE

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FOR THE SUBCOMMISSION AT ITS COMING MEETING TO AGREE THAT THE

SUBCOMMISSION WOULD HAVE A GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY IN REGARD TO POLICY COVERING ALL RESEARCH AND WOULD ALSO HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISCUSSING AND REACHING AN UNDERSTANDING ON SUCH MATTERS AS PROCEDURES FOR CLEARANCE, APPROVAL, AND ENDORSEMENT OF ALL JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS WHETHER SPECIFICALLY UNDER THE SUBCOMMISSION OR NOT. RAMACHANDRAN SEEMED RECEPTIVE TO THIS IDEA AND INDICATED HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH NAG CHAUDHURI, WHO WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME.

3. RAMACHANDRAN ASKED WHETHER THE US ENVISAGED THAT THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION WOULD HAVE OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS. THEDCM SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE THIS WAS THE US VIEW; RATHER, THE SUBCOMMISSION HAD A BROAD POLICY RESPONSIBILITY FOR JOINT RESEARCH.

4. WE ARE GIVING DESHPANDE AN INFORMAL PAPER COMPRISING EXCERPTS FROM PARA ONE REFTTEL TO ILLUSTRATE FURTHER OUR VIEWS ON THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SUBCOMMISSION. WE WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSING THIS MATTER TO THE EXTENT IT APPEARS USEFUL BUT WILL POINT OUT THAT FINAL RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR THE SUBCOMMISSION MEETING.

5. IN ANOTHER BRIEF EVENING CONVERSATION ON JANUARY 9 THE DCM ASKED CABINET SECRETARY PANDE IF THE GOI REVIEW OF ONGOING RUPEE RESEARCH PROJECTS WOULD BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION MEETING. THE DCM ALSO SAID HE HOPED THE GOI PROCEDURES FOR APPROVAL OF NEW PROJECTS WOULD BE SETTLED BY THAT TIME. PANDE SAID THE REVIEW WAS IN ITS FINAL STAGES AND NOTED THE DATES OF THE SUBCOMMISSION MEETING BUT MADE NO DEFINITE COMMITMENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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